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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Yuen

Serial No.: 09/872,993

Group No.: 2673

Filed: June 1, 2001

Examiner:

For: SMART HANDWRITING RECOGNITION APPARATUS AND METHODS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 2-6 as follows:

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the identification of the most probable word includes the step of using character recognition to initially narrow down the alternatives of the word.
3. The method of claim 1, where the identification of the most probable word includes the step of using the length of the word or the relative placement of the characters together to further narrow the alternatives.
4. The method of claim 1 further including the step of using the grammatical relationship of the word or words to further narrow the alternatives.

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